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*Admitted only in Maryland
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July 7, 2004

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Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Art Unit 3676

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Application No. 10/743,838; Filed: December 24, 2003
For: **Handle For Carrying Case**
Inventor: W. Dale HOLLINGSWORTH
Our Ref: 2219.0190004

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. Form PTO-1449 listing SEVENTY-SEVEN (77) documents (8 pages);
3. Copies of FOUR (4) of the SEVENTY-SEVEN (77) documents as listed on Form PTO-1449; and
4. One (1) return postcard.

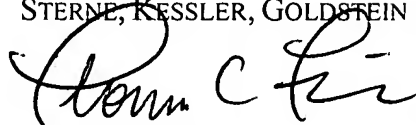
It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
July 7, 2004
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom C Fiala", written over the printed name.

Thomas C. Fiala
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 43,610

TCF/mjg
Enclosures



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

W. Dale HOLLINGSWORTH

Appl. No.: 10/743,838

Filed: December 24, 2003

For: **Handle For Carrying Case**

Confirmation No.: 1124

Art Unit: 3676

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Atty. Docket: 2219.0190004

Information Disclosure Statement

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

Applicant has listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicant reserves the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent

application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith.

Applicant has checked the appropriate boxes below.

- ☐ 1. Statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.704(d). Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.
- ☒ 2. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No statement or fee is required.
- ☐ 3. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c). This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection, or Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.
 - ☐ a. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1). I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).

- ☐ b. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2). I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
- ☐ c. Attached is our PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$_____ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
- ☐ 4. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d) This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Enclosed find our PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$_____ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p); in addition:
- ☐ a. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1). I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2). I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign

application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).

- ☒ 5. Documents AD1, AD3, AE5, AI5, AJ5, AA6, AB6, and AL1 were cited in an International Search Report (enclosed as document AP1) by the European Patent Office in a counterpart PCT application.

Documents AB1, AE1, AG2, AF3, AC4, AB5, AC5, AE5, and AF5, were cited in an International Preliminary Examination Report (enclosed as document AQ1) by the European Patent Office in a counterpart PCT application.

- ☐ 6. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language document(s) appears below:

- ☒ 7. Copies of the documents are submitted herewith, with the exception of the U.S. patent documents (see box 9 below).

- ☐ 8. Copies of the documents were cited by or submitted to the Office in an IDS that complies with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)-(c) in Application No. _____, filed _____, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these documents are not attached. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).

- ☒ 9. No copies of U.S. patents and patent application publications cited on the attached Form PTO-1449 are submitted in accordance with 1276 OG 55 because this application was filed after June 30, 2003.

- ☐ 10. It is expected that the examiner will review the prosecution and cited art in the parent application no(s). _____ in accordance with MPEP 2001.06(b), and indicate in the next communication from the office that the art cited in the earlier prosecution history has been reviewed in connection with the present application.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Thomas C. Fiala
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 43,610

Date: 7/7/09

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282680_1.DOC

FORM PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

2219.0190004

APPLICATION NO.

10/743,838

APPLICANT

W. Dale HOLLINGSWORTH

FILING DATE

December 24, 2003

GROUP

3676

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA1	Des. 188,582	08/1960	Koffler			
	AB1	1,372,126	03/1921	Dunham, Jr.			
	AC1	1,374,126	04/1921	Walter			
	AD1	1,444,112	02/1923	Davis			
	AE1	1,658,174	02/1928	Russell			
	AF1	1,826,976	10/1931	Wright			
	AG1	1,889,765	12/1932	Switkes			
	AH1	2,181,587	11/1939	Plotkin			
	AI1	2,316,328	04/1943	Guenther et al.			
	AJ1	2,589,438	03/1952	Schneider			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
	AK1	0 797 939 A2	10/1997	EP			N/A
	AL1	161,117	04/1921	GB			N/A
	AM1						N/A
	AN1						N/A
	AO1						N/A

OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	AP	<u>1</u>	International Search Report from PCT Appl. No. PCT/US01/00655, filed January 26, 2001, 5 pages, mailed November 21, 2001.
	AQ	<u>1</u>	International Preliminary Examination Report from PCT Appl. No. PCT/US01/00655, filed January 26, 2001, 5 pages, dated August 5, 2002.
	AR	<u>1</u>	
	AS	<u>1</u>	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

282539_1.DOC

FORM PTO-1449 <u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</u>	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 2219.0190004	APPLICATION NO. 10/743,838
	APPLICANT W. Dale HOLLINGSWORTH	
	FILING DATE December 24, 2003	GROUP 3676

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA2	2,708,989	05/1955	Bogdanski			
	AB2	2,771,167	11/1956	Lifton			
	AC2	2,800,940	07/1957	Riesebeck			
	AD2	2,908,362	10/1959	Burtchaell			
	AE2	2,913,080	11/1959	Louik et al.			
	AF2	3,023,868	03/1962	Koffler			
	AG2	3,115,229	12/1963	Erhard			
	AH2	3,265,168	08/1966	Erhard			
	AI2	3,500,973	03/1970	Bush			
	AJ2	3,529,317	09/1970	Schwarzkopf			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
	AK2						N/A
	AL2						N/A
	AM2						N/A
	AN2						N/A
	AO2						N/A

OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)			
	AP	2	
	AQ	2	
	AR	2	
	AS	2	

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA3	3,531,822	10/1970	Bush			
	AB3	3,656,594	04/1972	Marks et al.			
	AC3	3,692,155	09/1972	Laurita			
	AD3	3,698,404	10/1972	Greco			
	AE3	3,813,729	06/1974	Szabo et al.			
	AF3	3,912,055	10/1975	Malooly			
	AG3	3,912,140	10/1975	Franges			
	AH3	3,944,033	03/1976	Simson			
	AI3	4,189,037	02/1980	Szabo			
	AJ3	4,212,377	07/1980	Weinreb			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
	AK3						N/A
	AL3						N/A
	AM3						N/A
	AN3						N/A
	AO3						N/A

OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)			
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	AQ	<u>3</u>	
	AR	<u>3</u>	
	AS	<u>3</u>	

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA4	4,261,078	04/1981	Edwards et al.			
	AB4	4,336,883	06/1982	Krug et al.			
	AC4	4,339,039	07/1982	Mykleby			
	AD4	4,340,990	07/1982	Seynhaeve			
	AE4	4,364,150	12/1982	Remington			
	AF4	4,478,450	10/1984	Picozza			
	AG4	4,514,876	05/1985	Houlberg			
	AH4	4,707,883	11/1987	Irani et al.			
	AI4	5,010,988	04/1991	Brown			
	AJ4	5,160,001	11/1992	Marceau			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
	AK4						N/A
	AL4						N/A
	AM4						N/A
	AN4						N/A
	AO4						N/A

OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	AP	<u>4</u>	
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	AR	<u>4</u>	
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA5	5,210,904	05/1993	Pratt			
	AB5	5,217,119	06/1993	Hollingsworth			
	AC5	5,249,653	10/1993	King			
	AD5	5,469,945	11/1995	Jserng			
	AE5	5,494,157	02/1996	Golenz et al.			
	AF5	5,524,754	06/1996	Hollingsworth			
	AG5	5,622,262	04/1997	Sadow			
	AH5	5,624,035	04/1997	Kim			
	AI5	5,676,223	10/1997	Cunningham			
	AJ5	5,725,090	03/1998	Vermillion et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
	AK5						N/A
	AL5						N/A
	AM5						N/A
	AN5						N/A
	AO5						N/A

OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

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	AR	<u>5</u>	
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA6	5,755,329	05/1998	Sadow			
	AB6	5,762,170	06/1998	Shyr et al.			
	AC6	5,775,497	07/1998	Krulik			
	AD6	5,808,865	09/1998	Alves			
	AE6	5,819,942	10/1998	Sadow			
	AF6	5,829,099	11/1998	Kopelman et al.			
	AG6	5,884,768	03/1999	Fox			
	AH6	5,909,759	06/1999	Tanaka et al.			
	AI6	5,909,806	06/1999	Fischel et al.			
	AJ6	5,954,170	09/1999	Chisholm			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
	AK6						N/A
	AL6						N/A
	AM6						N/A
	AN6						N/A
	AO6						N/A

OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)			
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	AR	<u>6</u>	
	AS	<u>6</u>	

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EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA7	5,967,270	10/1999	Shyr			
	AB7	5,996,180	12/1999	Eisenzopf			
	AC7	6,073,770	06/2000	Park			
	AD7	6,105,763	08/2000	Saetia			
	AE7	6,105,764	08/2000	Scicluna et al.			
	AF7	6,105,766	08/2000	Chuang			
	AG7	6,109,434	08/2000	Howard, Jr.			
	AH7	6,131,734	10/2000	Hollingsworth et al.			
	AI7	6,237,766 B1	05/2001	Hollingsworth			
	AJ7	6,338,180 B1	01/2002	Massard			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
	AK7						N/A
	AL7						N/A
	AM7						N/A
	AN7						N/A
	AO7						N/A

OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)			
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	AR	<u>7</u>	
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA8	6,390,297 B1	05/2002	Hollingsworth			
	AB8	6,499,187 B2	12/2002	Hollingsworth			
	AC8	6,687,955 B2	02/2004	Hollingsworth			
	AD8						
	AE8						
	AF8						
	AG8						
	AH8						
	AI8						
	AJ8						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
	AK8						N/A
	AL8						N/A
	AM8						N/A
	AN8						N/A
	AO8						N/A

OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)			
	AP	<u>8</u>	
	AQ	<u>8</u>	
	AR	<u>8</u>	
	AS	<u>8</u>	

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